

AVP-AUSTRALIA NATIONAL GATHERING 2007 REPORT APPENDICES 3-5

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APPENDIX 3 EMAILS FROM AVP GROUPS NOT ATTENDING

Western Australia

From: "Jim Thom" jjathom@bigpond.com
Date: Mon, 15 Jan 2007 19:45:45 +0900
Subject: Re: [avp-aul] 2007 National Gathering registration

Unfortunately I don't think anyone from WA will be able to attend this year. I hope it goes well.
best wishes, Jim

Date: 24/1/2007

It all looks so well organised and exciting. I wish I could be there! I really enjoyed it last year and feel quite nostalgic!
best wishes, Jim

From: Shane Bailey shaneb@hcsq.com.au
Date: Mon, 15 Jan 2007-11-21
Subject: RE: Membership of AVP-AUL

Hi again Katherine

No unfortunately I can't attend the national gathering. at the last committee meeting no members were available to attend however that may have changed since the meeting I am not sure. Time and cost are the issues. We had 3 members go the international gathering ... shame no one from wa can make it this year. Thanks for your offer to provide info for our newsletter I will likely take you up on that. Great opportunity to give our members and interested others a national perspective of AVP
Cheers Shane

Victoria

From Bev Polzin
Date: 23/01/2007
Subject: Re: [avp-aul] 2007 National Gathering registration

Dear Katherine and Malcolm

* After just having returned from Tassie where we had the YM of Quakers, and then a week's walking, I won't be able to get to the Nat. Gathering this coming w/end. I understand that Chris and Moira will be coming up from Vic. So we hope that they come back enthused! I'm sure they will.

* I don't know whether you knew that Lou had an operation for a hip replacement on January 17th (yes, hard to believe that extra-fit Lou would need such an operation!) so she'll be out of action for a while.

* I haven't been in touch since returning this morning from Tassie but will do so within the next day or so. I expect all would go well, though.

Bev Polzin

Queensland

To: katherine@transformingconflict.info, avp-au@yahoogroups.com

From: heatheravpq11 <heatheravpq11@optusnet.com.au>

Subject: Re: [avp-au] AVP National Gathering update & 2006 State Reports

Hi Katherine and other NSW and oz avpers,

I was just commenting to Maxine that this time last year we were planning to arrive on your doorstep ready to have lots of fun.

* I just wanted to let you all know that

- I am sad to not be involved again this year.

- My wish for you is that you all feel inspired and courageous in your work together

- I hope you have been receiving the calls from men and women affected by the "Australia says no to violence" campaign as we have, and I would love to hear how that has affected your work and workshops

- participating in last year's gathering really helped me stay focussed and energised in our work this year.

* so, thank you NSW for once again making this National Gathering happen. The benefits spread far and wide towards nonviolence

New Zealand

From: Peter Watson <pbiet@clear.net.nz>

Subject: contact details

New Years' Greetings John and Malcolm, I like the idea of closer links between AVP (ers) in our respective groupings.

Looking forward to receiving the info from you that I can spread to our AVP contact list here.

Cheerfully, Peter

Date: Tue, 16 Jan 2007 14:45:04 +1300

From: Peter Watson <pbiet@clear.net.nz>

Subject: Re: [avp-aul] 2007 AVP-Australia National Gathering registration

Thanks Katherine,

Yes, please sign me up for the AVP-Aul elist (6 messages a month I can handle!)

I have forwarded your message on to as many active AVPers here that I had addresses for, which is less than there used to be.

Our National Gathering is usually in November - I'll send you the dates once I have them, so that any Aust.AVPers planning on coming on a visit maybe able to adjust their times to fit.

All the best for 2007, Peter

From: "elaine dyer" <elainedyer@clear.net.nz>

Date: Fri, 26 Jan 2007 09:40:39 +1300

Subject: Re: [avp-aul] AVP National Gathering

Dear Friends and family of AVP

I too send my warm thoughts to you as you prepare to gather.

* I am often speeding through my constantly crowded inbox, and so read some and skip some, but the sense that I have of your presence makes me feel great each time I see the list name in there!

* So, as you gather, may the days be warm and the nights cool, may the hearts be warm and the tempers cool, may the fun be hot and the business thinking temperate... may transforming power easily release all obstacles and as you consider relationships... know that even if some of them are unseen, that there are many loving thoughts surrounding you.

Blessings to you all as you gather, elaine

From: "Ian & Rere Stroud" <iandre2@slingshot.co.nz>

Date: Fri, 26 Jan 2007 11:31:59 +1300

Subject: Re: [avp-aul] AVP National Gathering update

Tena korua Katherine raua ko Malcolm me kia ora koutou katoa e hoa ma / Greetings to you both Katherine & Malcolm and to all friends greetings of well being to you all.

* New Year greetings of Love & Friendship, of Continued Guidance that Inspires, of Health on/in all levels of being, Peace & Harmony in all relationships, & the Ever-Unfolding Wonder of Living.

* Thank you for keeping AVP Aotearoa in touch with your activities, past and present. Wonderful work. Would love to participate with you all again. In the meantime I have forwarded these emails & look towards more to come.

Arohanui / God's Breath, Rere

APPENDIX 4 RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR AUSTRALIAN AVP GROUPS

These are some of the many resources available from Malcolm Smith
AVP(NSW) – ph/fax +61-2-9449-8415 & avp-sydney@avp.org.au

- Interesting publications
- Old testimonies
- Handbook of Restorative Justice
- Rwanda stories
- African experiences
- Trauma programs

- Videos CD's /DVD's
- Booklets (interfaith) – mini sessions – Youth meetings, Agendas
- USA Gatherings
- Canadian Book
- Missouri – welcome to AVP
- HIPP Problems – First AVP Another way, Basic Facc.
- A list of publications DVD's CD's

The following resources are available from various sources. Malcolm also maintains copies.

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Title	Format	Use	Avail
Connecting Communities: Alternatives to Violence-Interfaith	DVD 28m	AVP only	
Reflections: Interfaith Youth Interactions	DVD 17 m	AVP only	
Welcome to AVP: the spirit and skill of nonviolence	DVD 28 m		
AVP/USA 2006 National Gathering – Keynote Speakers Bo Lozoff on Prison Issues Robin Casajian on Forgiveness	DVD 82 m 95 m		
Man Alive: Belly of the Beast – The world of AVP	DVD		
Another Way?	DVD 54 m VHS 54 m		
A Collection of AVP Videos A Step towards Peace Belly of the Beast HIPP Another Way?	DVD 54 m		

DVDs and Videos

A Collection of AVP Videos
A Step towards Peace
Belly of the Beast
HIPP
Another Way?

A Step towards Peace
©

Man Alive Belly of the Beast
Copies available from AVP(Vic)
© CBC

HIPP
©

Another Way? DVD 54 min
© 2006 AVP-USA Produced by Trish FitzSimons
We follow four inmates through an AVO prison workshop, and then revisit them three years later. Will AVP workshops challenge ingrained patterns of violence; will these changes be sustained once the workshop is over; "Another Way?" lets us get to know these men and their challenges, and think about what it means for the rest of us.

Another Way? VHS 54 min
© 199x Wisteria Films Producer/Director Trish FitzSimons
"Another Way?" is a documentary about change. It follows four key subjects - Mick, Barry, Ed and Terry – through intensive Alternatives to Violence workshops in prison, and then revisits the same men three years later. Could a series of rehabilitation workshops challenge ingrained patterns of violence, and would these changes be sustained in individual lives once the workshops were over? "Another Way?" lets us get to know these men, see some of the challenges they face, and think about what this means to the rest of us.
(Filmed in Queensland in the mid-1990's and shown on SBS)

Welcome to AVP: the spirit and skill of nonviolence DVD 28 min
© 2006 FNV

AVP/USA 2006 National Gathering – Keynote Speakers DVD
• Bo Lozoff on Prison Issues 82 min
• Robin Casajian on Forgiveness 95 min
© 2006 AVP/USA

Connecting Communities: Alternatives to Violence-Interfaith DVD 28 min
© 2005 Whirling Dervish Productions

Reflections: Interfaith Youth Interactions DVD 17 min
© 2006 IFEW

Websites

AVP in Australia	www.avp.org.au
AVP/USA	www.avpusa.org
AVP International	www.avpinternational.org
Real Justice	www.realjustice.org
Nonviolent Communication	www.cnvc.org

Articles

The next step: developing restorative communities

Ted Wachtel - 9 November 2005

Source:

12 pg

Web

- RJ Developing Restorative Community Wachtel 200511.pdf PDF 341Kb
12 pg
- Restorative Justice in Everyday Life: Beyond the Formal Ritual**
Ted Wachtel - paper presented at the "Reshaping Australian Institutions Conference: Restorative Justice and Civil Society," The Australian National University, Canberra, February 16-18, 1999
Source: Web
4 pg
RJ Intro Restorative Justice in Everyday Life Wachtel 199902.pdf PDF 29Kb
4 pg
- What is restorative practices?**
Source: <http://www.iirp.org/whatisrp.php> Web
4 pg
RJ What is Restorative Practices 200208.pdf PDF 214 Kb
4 pg
- AVP International Contacts**
A list of contacts for all AVP organisations outside USA
Source: www.avpinternational.org/contact.htm Web
18 pg
- Alternative to Violence: Conflict prevention in Nigeria**
© 2000 International Red Cross Magazine Iolanda Jacquemet
Outlines the genesis of an AVP program in Nigeria under the auspices of the International Red Cross and describes a workshop in Lagos. AVP started in Nigeria in 1998 in cooperation with PRAWA, A Nigerian NGO assisting prison inmates. In 2000, ICRC sponsored a series of AVP workshops to tackle the root causes of the endemic violence that afflicts the capital and resolve conflict peacefully.
Source: <http://avpinternational.org/nigeria2.htm> Web
4 pg
AVPI Nigeria Red Cross Article 2000.pdf PDF 48Kb
4 pg
- From Restorative Justice to Restorative Practices: Expanding the Paradigm**
A paper reviewing restorative principles applied to areas beyond criminal justice.
Ted Wachtel and Paul McCold at IIRP's Fifth International Conference, Vancouver, Canada.
August 5, 2004
Source: www.realjustice.org/library/bc04_wachtel.html Web
8 pg
RJ RJ2RP Expanding Paradigm Wachtel 20040805.pdf PDF 198Kb
8 pg
- "Peace cannot stay in small places"**
Lessons from Alternatives to Violence workshops with Gacaca judges in Rwanda - May 2004 – March 2005
By Laura Shipler Chico and Uwimana Marie Paule
AVP-Rwanda Assessment, USIP--May 2005--For early distribution.pdf PDF 178Kb
31 pg
- "I Still Believe There is Good in All People"**
AVP-Rwanda Evaluation Rwanda Gacaca 2003.pdf PDF 464Kb
28 pg

APPENDIX 5 FEEDBACK ABOUT THE NATIONAL GATHERING

What worked

- Reflection
- Discussion
- Plenary session x2
- All that we were here for worked well
- 1 1/2 - hr sessions
- Content of plenary sessions (maybe change time)
- New ideas and new ways of using exercises
- Gathering at the beginning of the day
- Happy hour
- Content
- I appreciate being involved again - such passionate committed people
- All the activities I participated in were very worthwhile and stimulating
- Business sessions x2
- Great example of respect for opinions, ideas and views
- Discussion to reach consensus
- All the plenary sessions and workshops have been stimulating and rewarding
- Great - the programs were flexible and adaptable as required
- Flexibility was excellent
- Timekeeping during the day was OK
- Lunches worked well
- Wikis worked well
- End time - good timekeeping
- Participation
- Discussion after the role-plays was very helpful
- Energy level rose when people followed actions in the *Physical Report* opening activity (like *Weather Report*)

What didn't work

- Happy hour
- Evening community meal
- After lunch talking not experiential
- People busy during Happy Hour when I would have liked to have communed with them
- Length of day exhausting
- Less representative of whole of AVP community
- Folk-singing - less critical mass
- Attendance - too scrappy, not enough people stayed the course
- Interstate - didn't happen
- Morning start time - typically 15 to 45 minutes late
- After lunch session - several eyes closed
- Happy hour longer than needed, low attendance
- Lengthy lectures not timed.

Suggestions

- Plenary session – need chairperson and vibes watched to check energy level – not in morning only in afternoon
- Energy level rose when people followed actions in the Physical report opening (like Weather Report)
- Good to find out peoples commitment or time availability at the beginning of the day
- Active content after lunch
- Plenary session different time or shorter
- More physical and stretching and some fun play
- Pity it was only a small gathering. Perhaps we could look at ways / ideas to encourage more participants such as non facilitators to the gathering
- A shorter weekend (two days)
- No major exercises in the afternoon
- National Gathering with Quaker Yearly meeting
- More lively activities in the afternoon
- Have a name activity daily if new people come in

Comments

- Fantastic
- It was nice to be invited to do a plenary session and to have positive feedback
- Good job all
- Well done guys thank you
- The Gathering was great (it was even better to be able to meet / catch up with different people)
- Love the Group
- Keep up the good work.

AVP(NSW) COUNCIL MEETING DISCUSSION FEEDBACK

Suggestions

- That an effort be made to include more involvement from other AVP groups
- That the focus of the National Gathering be community building and sharing of activities, ideas and experiences with a series of sessions presented over the three days
- That the information presented at the business session and plenary sessions could be better shared using electronic communication tools like – telephone or skype conferencing, chat sessions or the wiki clearinghouses – for those who are interested
- That electronic communication facilities be provided at the beginning of the Gathering to assist anyone who wants to share information to put this on the wiki clearinghouse, websites etc.

- That the business session might be better conducted at the end of Yearly Meeting when there are representatives from most if not all of the AVP groups
 - That there be more of a focus on the provision of opportunities for talking and networking with a dinner on the first evening before the sessions start, and scheduled long breaks and lunch breaks
 - That the time each day be shortened to between 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
 - That the first two days consist of a series of short workshop sessions and the third day have a full-day workshop
 - That more time be provided each day for building community
 - That the plenary session information is so valuable that the presentation time be extended.
-
- That strategies be considered to deal with the problem of people coming and going during the day
 - That having buddies is a good idea for bonding and community building, however this is difficult with too many people coming and going
 - That people be asked to commit for a full day to reduce the disruption of people coming and going. Some people came for a shorter time than they said
 - Have more sessions planned – the last day closed early when the group ran out of momentum and sessions
 - That people be given the opportunity to enjoy the Australia Day activities
 - That the letter to facilitators (both inmate & outmate) be prepared before the business session – so that every can sign it
 - Continue sending cards to sick facilitators
 - That the emails from other states continue to be brought to the business session
 - That there be a light and lively every 45 minutes during the business session
 - That there be more focus on the housekeeping volunteer list
 - That each day begin with community building not plenary session activities
 - That the plenary sessions be held at another time or in another way as only some people are interested in business
 - Good to have the business session agenda distributed early
 - Good to have someone responsible for all the posters and later to do the report
 - Good to have the report templates set up before the workshop so as much of the report can be prepared during the Gathering
 - That there be an invitation to presenters to provide an electronic copy of a report of their session for the NG Report prior to the presentation of their session
 - That information about accommodation be available sooner than it was this year
 - That participants be invited to give feedback about what kind of social activities they would like prior to the NG eg. folk singing, dinner, karaoke

- Need to stick with the Plenary Session policy and not to add in things for people who chose to attend only part of the time
- Have a chair, a scribe (on posters) and a vibes watcher (to check energy levels) for the plenary session as there is so much talking
- Have a Name activity each morning if there are new people

APPENDIX 6 ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE PROJECT – INTERNATIONAL GATHERING 2006 NATIONAL REPORT

National Office/Representative details

Name of National Contact – Malcolm Smith

Gender M/F - M

Country of work – Australia

Role in AVP (position held) – Registrar, AVP(NSW)

Contact Details for National Representative

PO Box or Street address – PO Box 471, Turramurra, NSW, 2074

City - Sydney

Code - 2074

Country - Australia

Email – avpsydney@avp.org.au or msmith@infosearch.com.au

Fax & Telephone - + 612-9449-8415

Cell phone - + 61-41-449-8415

Country Details

This report was prepared by AVP(NSW) on behalf of AVP-Australia and may not include the full diversity of AVP/HIP activities that are occurring in AVP/HIP groups across Australia.

Country profile (approx 300 words) including some background on why peace work is necessary/important in

AVP in Australia consists of 7 autonomous regional groups based in each Australian state with a support network linking the various groups. Australia is characterised by a large land mass with large distances between major centres and expensive airfares.

AVP-Australia has national gatherings, website (www.avp.org.au) and a facilitators discussion egroup with a monthly facilitators 'e-news'

- New South Wales has 4 community groups in Sydney, Newcastle, Blue Mountains and Canberra (Australian Capital Territory – ACT), a Prison Group with programs in 5 prisons, and a HIP group based in Sydney and Canberra schools. It also supports a program of Interfaith workshops and a community program in Papua New Guinea;
- Northern Territory group is in Alice Springs (community)
- Queensland has two groups in Brisbane (prison, community & HIP) and Rockhampton
- South Australia's group is in Adelaide (community)
- Tasmania's group is not currently active
- Victoria's group is based in Melbourne (community & prison)
- Western Australia's group is in Perth (prison, community and HIP).

In Australia HIP (Help Increase Peace) is an integral part of AVP in the community. All HIP facilitators are trained in running HIP workshops and many are also trained AVP facilitators. All HIP co-ordinators are AVP trained facilitators.

In Australia there are typical problems of personal, domestic, criminal, drug-related, bullying, prison, community, school violence as in many communities. There are also problems with violence involving the indigenous Australian Aborigines and involving multifaith/multicultural groups.

Last year there was a program of 20 interfaith workshops across Australia in partnership with a Sydney Muslim organisation

How long has AVP been running in your country? – Since 1991

How many AVP workshops have been carried out annually? AVP (basic, advanced, T4F), CORE – What are CORE workshops?

There has not been time to collect detailed statistics from all local AVP groups

How many AVP facilitators do you have? –

There has not been time to collect detailed statistics from all local AVP groups

How do you decide where to conduct workshops?

Each local group makes the decision about how many workshops they have the resources to conduct and where they can get venues and participants

How do you develop your AVP facilitators?

- There is a program of free ongoing training for all facilitators
- Participation in many workshops – all facilitators participate in as many workshops (at all levels, including basic & advanced) as is practical
- There are two Introduction to Facilitation Workshops – T4F (focuses on presentation) and Role Play
- New facilitators start with the *AVP/HIP Sydney NSW Training Manual* and are issued with the other AVP & HIP manuals as they progress through the levels of workshop
- New facilitators start as a non-presenting facilitator and 'learn the ropes and observe the process' before presenting
- Each facilitator presents two basic workshops as an apprentice facilitator
- Facilitators are mentored by more experienced facilitators at every stage of their development, are empowered/encouraged to progress at their own pace
- Facilitators are encouraged to participate and facilitate in workshops conducted by other AVP and HIP groups both within NSW and elsewhere
- Facilitators are encouraged to be trained in restorative practices

- Many facilitators conduct professional experiential/transformational learning workshops in other forums such as HIP and Transforming Conflict workshops conducted in the TAFE (technical education system)
- A number of facilitators have also received adult education training, particularly those involved with teaching other courses
- Facilitators who do not facilitate a workshop for at least one year need to participate in a workshop and be re-selected as a facilitator
- All outmate facilitators are members of the non-hierarchical AVP(NSW) Council and responsible for all decision-making about the facilitation and organisation of workshops. Members of local groups and individual workshop teams make their own decisions within the overall guidelines.

A major part of our ongoing training is the recent development of a local training manual (*AVP/HIP Sydney NSW Training Manual*). It has been developed to capture the learning from the wealth of experience of local AVP/HIP facilitators and the various types of workshops run by AVP(NSW) including HIP, Transforming Conflict, First Fridays and particularly the Interfaith workshop program. Activities have been adapted to respect cultural sensitivities. It has been particularly successful in empowering inmate facilitators.

Have you held any new training opportunities?

see previous answer

How is AVP funded / sustained in your country?

- Fees from the community workshops, some grants, some donations, and some fundraising fund the community and prison workshops, workshop resources and ongoing facilitator training
- School HIP workshops are funded by the school district or individual school

Specific Programs running currently

Are there any new models of AVP and/or related approaches that you are using? Why? ie are you running additional projects? How is this working?

- T4F workshops – cover learning about presentation skills not role play
- Role play workshops – focus on learning about presentation of role plays, role play activities and light n livelies
- Topic Advanced workshops – focus on specific predetermined topics like forgiveness, anger, relationships and interfaith. These are held for graduates of 'Consensus Advanced' workshops
- Interfaith – basic and topic advanced workshops plus advanced facilitators training for interfaith workshops have been held across Australia
- Advanced Facilitation workshops and training nights
- HIP – series of basic, advanced and T4F HIP workshops are held for school students and a separate series of basic, advanced and T4F HIP

workshops are held for teachers, school administrators and parents. (HIP facilitators are paid as teachers by the sponsoring organisation and facilitate in teams).

HIP workshops use 5 HIP keys rather than Transforming Power and the AVP Mandala. The HIP keys are care for others (yellow), respect yourself (blue), think before reacting (green), work together for a non-violent way (red) and expect the best (black).

- Transforming Conflict – subjects and courses have been developed for use with classes outside AVP/HIP using nonviolence experiential learning activities. These classes are subsets of HIP learning and do not include either the HIP keys or Transforming Power. These teachers are usually paid, they teach a class on their own and these classes can be held in schools, technical colleges and in commercial settings. There are two Transforming Conflict subjects that have been accredited as national TAFE (technical education) Communication modules. Many thousands of students in New South Wales and across Australia have studied these Communication conflict resolution subjects (well over 30,000). The Transforming Conflict training manual was published by TAFE NSW for TAFE communication teachers. Many TAFE teachers have received AVP or HIP training
- First Friday – mini workshops for a monthly support and community building group. These activities tend to be on a theme and are a combination of AVP, topic advanced and transforming conflict workshop learning activities. The activities are in less depth than for a full AVP workshop as there is not time to develop the required level of safety in two hour workshops. These workshops are being held regularly in the Sydney and Brisbane community groups and amongst the five prison groups of AVP inmate facilitators.

Evaluation

How are you evaluating your AVP projects?

- Ongoing program of informal facilitator & participant feedback
- Community workshops - formal evaluation with collated participant feedback forms included in each workshop report

Have any of your AVP projects been externally evaluated? If so, by whom?

Would you be prepared to make these evaluations available to others to read?